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SUBJECT: ANKARA MEDIA REACTION REPORT,
FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 2004

THIS REPORT WILL PRESENT A TURKISH PRESS SUMMARY UNDER
THREE THEMES:

HEADLINES
BRIEFING
EDITORIAL OPINION

HEADLINES

MASS APPEAL

US: PKK has never stopped terror - Milliyet
Division within PKK - Turkiye
Erdogan assails Sharon in Israeli newspaper - Aksam
Erdogan reiterates Israeli 'state terrorism' - Hurriyet
9/11, Iraq war hit CIA chief - Aksam
CIA director resigns - Hurriyet

OPINION MAKERS

Ankara happy with Annan report on Cyprus - Yeni Safak
Annan slams Papadopoulos for 'fooling' Greek Cypriots -
Zaman
US State Department: PKK will be removed from northern Iraq
- Yeni Safak
Iran's Hamane'i: New Iraqi government puppet of Americans -
Yeni Safak
Bush likens 9/11 to Pearl Harbor - Cumhuriyet
Personal ties with Bush family cannot save Tenet -
Cumhuriyet
Kremlin: Putin to visit Turkey this fall - Yeni Safak
EU urges Turkey to fully implement EU reforms - Zaman
French socialists urge Turkey to recognize Armenian genocide
- Radikal

BRIEFING

PKK/Kongra-Gel: PKK leaders Osman Ocalan, Nizamettin Tas
and Hidir Yalcin have left the organization and sought
shelter with the Patriotic Union Of Kurdistan (PUK),
"Cumhuriyet" reports. They are expected to form a new
organization. An unidentified US official from the State
Department said the PKK declaration ending the unilateral
cease-fire would not change the position of the US. "In
fact, the PKK has never stopped its terrorist activities,
the official said, adding that 'the organization will be
eliminated in northern Iraq.' PKK/Kongra-Gel leader Zubeyir
Aydar told "Yeni Safak" that the organization supports
Turkey's EU membership through implementation of the
Copenhagen Criteria. "The Kurds have waited patiently for
six years, but Turkey has taken no step forward to resolve
the Kurdish problem," Aydar said. "During that time," he
added, "Turkey has never ended military operations against
us." Aydar welcomed AK Party policies on the EU and Cyprus,
but said the government had failed to take positive steps
forward on the Kurdish question. "As with previous
governments, the AK Party has left the solution of the
Kurdish problem to the military," Aydar concluded.

PM Erdogan on "Haaretz": In an interview with Israel's
Haaretz daily on Thursday, PM Erdogan accused Israel of
killing innocent Palestinians indiscriminately and failing
to contribute to the peace process. "The Jews were the
victims during the Spanish inquisition, but today the
Palestinians are the victims," Erdogan said. "Unfortunately
the people of Israel are treating the Palestinians as they
were treated 500 years ago," he added. Erdogan told Haaretz
that he had no problem with the Israeli people, only with
its present government. "The government of Israel has not
contributed to our efforts for peace," Erdogan charged.

Turkish lawmakers cancel trip to Palestine: A parliamentary

delegation has canceled its trip to Israel and Palestine after receiving a warning from the MFA that the visit would further strain ties between Turkey and Israel. The delegation was scheduled to go to Tel Aviv to observe the final hearing in the trial of Palestinian lawmaker Marwan Barghouti on June 6 before moving on for meetings in Palestine.

Cyprus: UN Secretary-General Annan said after meeting Greek Cypriot President Papadopoulos that the Greek Cypriot leadership owed an explanation to the world for the missed opportunity in Cyprus. Annan urged Papadopoulos to help the world to end the isolation of the northern Cypriots. "Such a move will contribute to efforts for the reunification of the island in the future," the UN Secretary General said. The Annan report praised the Turkish side for its constructive approach. "TRNC PM" Talat welcomed the report as a significant move toward ending the international isolation of the Turkish Cypriots. Meanwhile, the pro-EU Peace and Democracy Movement (BDH) led by Mustafa Akinci will likely join the coalition government led by Talat and Serdar Denktas.

Kurdish broadcasts due soon: Turkey's public broadcaster TRT will begin broadcasts in Kurdish on June 7, papers report. TRT will air 30-minute morning programs of news and music from Monday to Friday in Kurdish, Arabic, Bosnian and Circassian. Dailies regard the move as part of the AK Party government effort to implement EU harmonization laws.

EDITORIAL OPINION: Iraq/Terrorism/New Government

"Test of US sincerity in fight against terrorism"
Murat Birsell commented in the mass appeal Vatan (6/4): "One wonders how come the PKK is able to make calls from northern Iraq for a renewal of armed conflict even though US President Bush has defined the PKK as a terrorist organization. Following the PKK announcement, a State Department official tried to answer this conundrum by noting the PKK's ongoing terror acts and underlining the US goal to eliminate the PKK from the north of Iraq. . The statement is nice and comforting. However, isn't it time to question the gap between words and deeds? During the Iraq war, the US asked Turkey to stay away from northern Iraq and made a pledge to fight against terrorist groups. . In fact, the PKK declaration of an end to the cease-fire is a declaration of war not only on Turkey but also on the US."

"The PKK and the US"
Yilmaz Oztuna commented in the conservative-mass appeal Turkiye(6/4): "The PKK has recently intensified its activities. The organization has changed its name twice, and both new names were added to the terrorist lists of the US and the EU. The PKK established its headquarters on the top of a mountain in northern Iraq. The US, in announcing its global war against terrorism, didn't do anything about the PKK, apparently believing that they might need their services some day. Some of the terrorist organization members have already come down from the mountains and settled in Mosul and Kirkuk in an effort to scare away Iraqis of Turkish and Arab origin. We don't believe that the PKK could have continued its activities and threats had the US intervened. Washington should not be hurt by these criticisms. Instead, it should prove -- not with words, but with action -- that our perception on this issue is wrong. I feel sorry that I was compelled to put the superpower's name next to the officially accepted terrorist organization PKK as the title of this column. If I am convinced that I am wrong, I will gladly change my headline for the next time."

"The US did not keep its promise to Ankara"
Sedat Ergin observed in the mass appeal Hurriyet (6/4): "The new interim government in Iraq constitutes an important step toward the political restructuring of the country. According to the calendar, the IGC is to end as of June 30 and Ambassador Negroponte will be the US representative in Iraq. It remains to be seen to what extent we will see a genuine transfer of authority from Americans to Iraqis. The US occupation will continue. Therefore, the interim government will not have any control authority over US military forces. . The interim government is also a disappointment for the Turkmen. British Prime Minister Blair acknowledged two weeks ago the need for a fair and comprehensive representation of Turkmen during the transition period. Yet there has been no significant positive change in this direction. More importantly, the Bush administration made a pledge to Ankara to increase the Turkmen representation in the new government, but did not keep its promise. The only Turkmen representative in the

cabinet is not even a member of the International Turkmen Front (ITF). This shows the continuation of the US policy to keep the ITF out of the political scene. The whole thing also shows how little credibility Turkey has with Washington."

EDELMAN